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Complete if Known 10/784,553 Application Number February 23, 2004 Filing Date First Named Inventor Yukihiro MATSUMOTO Art Unit Virginia MANOHARAN **Examiner Name Attorney Docket Number** 2004-2150.ORI

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Signature	ViManohavan	Considered	5/4/0

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. * Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). *For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Skind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.

Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Département à La Haya Division de la recharcha

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EINGEGANGEN

03, Sep. 2004

Henkel, Feiler & Hänzel

Datum/Date

03.09.04

Zeichen/Reil/Réil.

14117/CH/tj

Anmeldung Nr /Application No./Demande nº/Patent Nr ./Patent No/Brevet nº.

04005570.9-2113-

Anmelder/Applicani/Demandeur/Palentinhaber/Proprietor/Tilulaire Nippon Shokubai Co., Ltd.

COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the European search report for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division:

Abstract

X title

The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.

The following figure will be published together with the abstract:

1

REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.





EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number EP 04 00 5570

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DE 196 31 332 A 1

German laid-open application

Removal of interfering components from the solvent circulation of gas scrubbers

Method for the removal of interfering high-boiling or else solid components from the solvent circulation of regenerable absorption processes, for example gas scrubbers, liquid/liquid extractions or extractive distillations, in which the solvent is regenerated by stripping the absorbed components in at least one regeneration stage, the solvent comprising at least one high-boiling main component and one lower-boiling minor component, having the steps:

- a reboiler (10, 10a, 10b, 16) operating as a pulsed evaporator, so that the components to be removed are first enriched in it or its circulation and are then ejected from the process,
- to this reboiler or to these reboilers operating as evaporator is fed, in addition to the solvent stream to be evaporated, a further stream (via line 14), which further stream consists of the lower-boiling minor component of the solvent or in which this minor component is at least enriched, and
- the vapour generated in this reboiler or these reboilers operating as evaporator (10, 10a, 10b, 16) is used in the regeneration stage as stripping vapour.

invention achieves the fact that to interfering high-boiling components, only expenditure in terms of apparatus and connections is necessary.